

and "The Black Indian Cuckow" of Edwards (Nat. Hist. Birds, II, 1747, pl. 59 and pl. 58), which represent quite unmistakably the species in question. The name *scolopaceus*, which stands first on the page, should be used for the species, and the fourteen races currently recognized must be known as:—

- Eudynamys scolopacca scolopacea* (Linné).
- Eudynamys scolopacea malayana* Cabanis and Heine.
- Eudynamys scolopacea harterti* Ingram.
- Eudynamys scolopacea mindanensis* (Linné).
- Eudynamys scolopacea facialis* Wallace.
- Eudynamys scolopacca melanorhyncha* S. Müller.
- Eudynamys scolopacea orientalis* (Linné).
- Eudynamys scolopacea everetti* Hartert.
- Eudynamys scolopacea rufiventer* (Lesson).
- Eudynamys scolopacca alberti* Rothschild and Hartert.
- Eudynamys scolopacca salvadorii* Hartert.
- Eudynamys scolopacea cyanocephala* (Latham).
- Eudynamys scolopacca subcyanocephala* Mathews.
- Eudynamys scolopacca flindersii* Vigors and Horsfield.

THOMAS E. PENARD, *Arlington, Mass.*

Aerial Evolutions of a Flicker.—While out with the class in bird study on May 25, 1919, my attention was attracted to a large bird going through some very peculiar maneuvers. He was just across a ravine and about four hundred yards away from where we stood. When first noticed, he was about fifty feet from the ground and ascending in peculiar, bumpy, and jerky spirals. This was maintained until a height of about 350–400 feet was reached, when, after a short pause, a reverse of practically the same performance was gone through. The Flicker (*Colaptes auratus luteus*), for as such he was identified by this time, then alighted in a cherry tree, just above a female that we had previously failed to notice, and completed the performance by going through his more familiar courting antics. I wonder if others have seen the Flicker do this.—C. W. LEISTER, *McGraw Hall, Ithaca, N. Y.*

Two Recent Records of the Horned Lark in Western New York.—Owing, perhaps, to the paucity of published records, local ornithologists have for some time regarded the Horned Lark (*Otocoris alpestris alpestris*) as rare, or at least uncommon, in this general locality. In treating of the subspecies in his 'Birds of New York' (1914), Eaton remarks that for fifteen years he has failed to secure any specimens on the shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario. He adds, however, that the bird unquestionably does occur there in the winter or during the migration time in the late fall. These facts have led me to place on record two recent dates of its occurrence near the village of Hamburg, about fifteen miles south of the city of Buffalo.

On December 17, 1916, I located a flock of about thirty larks feeding on weed seeds in the fields east of Hamburg. Although there might have been some Prairie Horned Larks (*O. a. praticola*) present, all the individuals examined by me were undoubtedly Horned Larks. At very close range, I noted the deep sulphur-yellow throat and also the yellow line over the eye. I might add that I am very familiar with the resident subspecies, which is one of the characteristic birds of our open country.

On March 22, 1919, while walking across a large plowed field south of Hamburg, I had the good fortune to flush a flock of at least sixty larks. The individuals of this band were much wilder than Prairie Horned Larks, and would take wing without apparent cause, much resembling Pipits (*Anthus rubescens*) in this respect. I was somewhat disappointed on account of this fact, for I had not as yet been able to make the identification with my glass. However, it soon developed that the birds habitually wheeled about in the air and returned to near the spot from which they were originally flushed. When opportunity finally presented itself for work with the glass, I was both surprised and pleased to note that many members of the flock had so very much yellow on the head and throat that identification as *O. a. praticola* was out of the question. A fairly large percentage of the birds, however, were evidently duller, probably females.

Inasmuch as I do not recall finding comparisons of the notes of the two subspecies in the literature, it might be of interest to append here a few remarks on the calls and songs. It seemed to me that the ordinary notes uttered as *Otocoris alpestris alpestris* takes wing are decidedly sharper than similar ones of *O. a. praticola*. Several of the males were singing on March 22 — not the flight song, of course, but the ebullient gurgling which is usually uttered from the ground in the case of the resident subspecies. Although it might easily have been that only young males were singing, the song of *Otocoris alpestris alpestris*, as I heard it, was decidedly not as finished a performance as that of *O. a. praticola*. The initiated would immediately recognize it as belonging to some form of *Otocoris alpestris*, but it certainly lacked the smoothness of *O. a. praticola*, and the notes themselves were decidedly wilder.—THOMAS L. BOURNE, Hamburg, N. Y.*

Abnormal Beak of a Horned Lark (*Otocoris alpestris praticola*).—

While collecting on May 8, 1911, I secured a very interesting and curious example of natural abnormality — an adult Horned Lark with a peculiar enlargement of the lower mandible. This member, of a dull bone tint (abnormal even in color), projected at least nine thirty-seconds of an inch beyond the upper mandible, terminating in a very blunt tip slightly darker than elsewhere. The upper mandible was also somewhat exceptional, but reversed, being smaller than is usual with the species, by about two-sixteenths of an inch, the normal length being approximately seven-sixteenths.

The bird was feeding with one other on a newly cultivated field, and when taken a small spherical lump of mud was frozen on the long lower mandible, reminding one of the protected tip of a foil. The night before had been